About two years ago, the Chalai road was spramexed ; but it soon developed cracks and ruts. Thereupon, blocks of tar were removed and the ruts filled with rubble and sand. The clouds of dust that incessantly rose from the road affected the health of pedestrians and the merchants doing business on either side. Before the monsoon of 1106, the road should be spramexed again.

The Putharikandam grounds should be converted into a park and recreation ground.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Easwaramurthia Pillai. Your suggestions for the improvement of the health of the town, I daresay, deserve consideration. You might have yourself listened to some of the representations which were made here by some members, about the way in which Government is said to be lavishing its income upon one favourite town. It is not that I agree with the view of the members who made that representation, but that the representatives of the Trivandrum town who come up to Government with prayers should remember the other side of the question also. This is one of the premier municipalities in the State ; and it is rather sad that every one of these prayers of yours should be made to the Government and none of them to the municipality whose primary duty it is to look after the health and sanitation of the town. Having said so much, I may tell you that I do not want you to go away with the impression that the Government are not going to pay any attention to these matters. I merely want the people of the town to remember that it is the duty of the municipality also to look after the health of the people and not to leave everything to Government.

The question of the slums is one that the municipality should take up. As I had occassion to tell the members of the last Assembly in answer to the member who represented the Trivandrum Municipality, it is for the municipality to start this work, that is, to take up such questions and where they find that any particular matter cannot be dealt with by them on account of financial difficulties, then it is up to them to make proposals to Government and ask for grants. Government may in certain circumstances help them with grants or loans. But if the people of the town think that the municipality is not responsible in the matter and the whole thing rests upon Government alone, that is a very wrong notion. Your other points will receive attention.

65. Reform of the Ayurveda Department.

MR. K. NEELACANTAN VAIDYAN (*Municipal Council, Quilon*) spekaing in Malayalam said that climatic conditions in India and the occupation, mode of living, diet, etc. of its people were peculiar. Hence the science of Ayurveda or the indigenous system of medical aid was more suited to the people of the country than the medical science of the west. The triumph of the Allopathic system in previous years was due mainly to surgery. But in all other respects, the Ayurvedic system was far superior. According to the Administration Report of the State for 1105, 96 per cent, of the patients treated under that system were cured.

The average expenditure on a patient was Chs. 2-11½ cash in the Ayurvedic hospital and Chs. 13-4½ cash in the Allopathic hospitals.

It was gratifying to observe that the Ayurvedic system of medical aid was coming into prominence in recent years. The Governments of Mysore, Baroda and Ceylon were doing propaganda work for popularising that system. Though the Government had established a Department of Ayurveda in Travancore its growth had been very slow. The Dewan in his Opening Address had spoken of the support which the Medical Department stood in need of, but had not mentioned a word about Ayurveda.

The most urgent needs of the Department of Ayurveda were the following :—

(i) An Ayurvedic constituency, consisting of Pandits, should be formed for returning a representative to the Legislative Council, to advocate the needs of Ayurveda.

(ii) The minimum qualification for admission to the Ayurveda College should be the *Sastri* test or any other examination equivalent to it. Holders of Secondary School Leaving Certificates, who had taken Sanskrit as optional subject and persons who had passed the Vernacular Higher examination might also be admitted. A person having no knowledge of Sanskrit would never understand the underlying principles and the deep significance of the Ayurvedic science.

(iii) A class should be opened in the Ayurveda Hospital, Trivandrum, for training students in treatments such as *vasthi, sirah, Vedana* etc. and in the preparation of medicines, confections, pills, oils, *ghrithas*, &c.

(iv) Only such persons as had undergone the above practical training and received diplomas should be granted licenses to practise.

(v) A Board consisting of Ayurvedic physicians should be set up to issue licenses to persons intending to practise.

(vi) Special licenses should be granted to existing Ayurvedic physicians having knowledge of the theory and practice of Ayurveda, but without examination qualifications.

(vii) The grants-in-aid should be enhanced. The existing four grades of *Vaidyasalas* should be given Rs. 30, Rs. 40, Rs. 50 and Rs. 60, respectively.

(viii) Newly discovered medicines should be approved by the Ayurvedic Board before they could be brought into use. A law should be enacted for enforcing the practice.

(ix) The Municipal aided dispensaries should be supplied with the necessary forms by the Department.

(x) Orders should be issued for the medical certificates granted by Ayurvedic physicians receiving grant from Government or the Municipalities being accepted by the Heads of Departments and Offices. The Heads of some departments rejected such certificates.

DEWAN'S REPLY: നിങ്ങടെ ആയുർവ്വേദത്തെപ്പററി പറഞ്ഞ ഭാഗങ്ങടെ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു പരിശ്ശോധിക്കുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ ആ ലോചിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ് കൊടുക്കുന്ന സംഗതിയിൽ ഗ്രാൻറുവൈദ്യന്മാക്കും അംഗീകരണം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വൈദ്യന്മാക്കും ഗവണ്മെൻറു അധികാരം കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MEMBER: അവർ കൊടുക്കുന്ന സർട്ടിഫിക്കറുകാം കോടതികാംസ്വീകരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

DEWAN: അങ്ങിനെ കൊടുക്കുന്ന സർട്ടിഫിക്കറുകളെ കോടതികാം സ്വീകരിക്കാതെയിരിക്കുന്നവെങ്കിൽ അതിനുവേറെ വല്ല കാരണങ്ങളും കാണും. സർട്ടിഫിക്കറു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള അധികാരം കൊടുത്തു കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ആ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറുകാം സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു വേണം വിചാരിക്കുവാൻ.

MEMBER: കോടതികളിൽ ഡാക്ടർമാരുടെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറുതന്നെവേണമെന്നു പറയുന്നുണ്ട്.

DEWAN: ആരുടെ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറു കൊണ്ടുപോയാലും കോടതി ചിലപ്പോാം നിഷേധിച്ചു എന്നു വരാം. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അതിൽ എന്തു ചെയ്യുവാൻ കഴിയും. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും പറയാവുന്നതു് ഇവർ കൊടുക്കുന്നതായ സർട്ടിഫിക്കറുകാം സ്വീകരിക്കാവുന്നതാണു് എന്നുമാത്രമേ ഉള്ളു. ഏതെങ്കിലും കാരണവശാൽ കോടതികാം അതു സ്വീകരിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിൽ അതിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

നിങ്ങാം പറഞ്ഞ മറു സംഗതികളെല്ലാംഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ആലോചിക്കുന്നതാണു്.

[Your representations will be considered when the Ayurveda Department is reorganised. Recognised *vaidyans* and grant-in-aid *vaidyans* are authorised to issue medical certificates. The reason why some courts refuse to accept such certificates is not clear. They also sometimes refuse to accept the certificates of doctors. Government can only authorise the grant of the certificates but cannot insist on their being accepted by the courts.]

66. Some suggestions regarding the Ayurveda Department.

MR. KOCHUKUNJU VAIDYAN (*Nominated*) speakin in Malayalam, said that Ayurveda was the ancient medical science of India which had been evolved to suit the climatic and other conditions of the country. The medicines prepared out of Indian herbs were more efficacious than the allopathic or foreign medicines. It was anomalous that Government spent only Rs. 60,000 every year on the Ayurveda Department, while the expenditure on the Medical Department exceeded Rs. 8 lakhs. Although the department was ably conducted by the late Director Mr. K. Sankara Menon and the Ag. Director Mr. Neelacanta Pillai, many improve ments had yet to be carried out,